



N.O.W. News

Vol. 42 No. 3

Fall 2004

Numismatists of Wisconsin



The Wisconsin Quarter is Next!

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The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives. Dues are \$5 per year and entitles participants to NOW News, this quarterly publication. Among the services offered are coin authentication, a Speaker's Bureau, show calendar coordination and guidelines to assist coin clubs hosting the annual NOW convention.

Fall 2004



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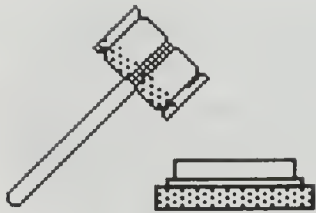
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NOW News Deadlines

February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1st



President's Message

by Thad Streeter

It's hard to believe that at the time of this writing, summer is two thirds over. At my home club here in Wausau, we took advantage of the nice weather and recently held our annual picnic. Time well spent with good friends, lots of good food and soda (and a little beer) to while away a lazy summer evening on the banks of the Wisconsin river. Talk ranged from coins to family to everything and just plain catching up with other. One of the benefits from friends made in the numismatic community.

With summer winding down, we can all look forward to the late summer and early fall shows in Fond du Lac and Milwaukee. I plan on being at both and look forward to seeing old and making new friends.

On the subject of coin shows, I want to thank all of the hard-working local club members that put their all into making them a success. I know first hand the trials that take place when putting one of these events together and the best way to describe it is as a labor of love.

Not to be forgotten, of course, when talking of shows, are the dealers that make up the main event. These dedicated professionals tack an extra day or days onto their already busy schedules to travel, unpack, set up, repack and travel again. Without them visiting our communities, any show would be an economic bust.

In closing, I would like to invite any NOW members or clubs that wish to contact me directly to do so via telephone at 715-355-5437, FAX 715-842-5345, e-mail tls0726@hotmail.com or snail mail at 5002 Tanya Street, Schofield, WI 54476.

Until next time, I shall remain numismatically yours. Good collecting to all.

Secretary's Notes



by Bill Brandimore

Summer is flying by. Coins and paper money remain hot. Krause Publications' Bank Note Reporter and Numismatic News are full of stories on auction results. Fabulous, if you're selling ultra high grade slabbed material; although I must say that I was a little disturbed by the slabbing of the King of Siam set. That set seemed so much the ultimate numismatic item... until the coins were slabbed. Of course, they will bring a higher price... and I guess that's an ultimate motive.

Dust off your Nationals if you have any laying around. You'll find that even the moderately scarce notes of 10 or 15 years ago are commanding big prices... nice large size type notes continue strong. Indian Chiefs and Buffalos are quite dear at the present time.

If you can't buy them, read about them. Books, trade magazines, auction catalogs, etc. are a good way to keep up-to-date. If you're not an ANA member, really consider it. The magazine is very well done and full of great articles... and as an ANA member, I believe you are supporting the hobby.

I am currently the Vice President of Central States. Membership is a great bargain for \$8. You get a quarterly magazine and belong to a great organization that sponsors great shows and allows numismatists to get together and have a good time. Our Spring show will be back in St. Louis next year and the Fall show will be over in the Cincinnati area.

So join another numismatic organization, go to a local coin show or a big show -- any kind of show and read up on your hobby. It's a great way to stay in tune.

* * *

No News From the Governor About the Release of Wisconsin's Quarter

No news is not always "Good News" when it comes to the release this fall of Wisconsin's quarter and what special events will be planned. No information has yet been released from the Governor's office.

Over the past year or two, Bill Brandimore and Cliff Mishler have contacted the Governor's office to let them know Numismatists of Wisconsin would like to be involved in any special events when our state quarter is released.

Cliff Mishler has been in contact with Kathryn Carlson at the Department of Public Instruction, but he couldn't really provide any concrete information pertaining to the events that will be planned. The latest message he received from her was:

"I just wanted to let you know that we have requested a special striking ceremony for the Wisconsin Quarter and are now working on finalizing the date (sometime in mid-October probably). I'll be in touch when I have more details."

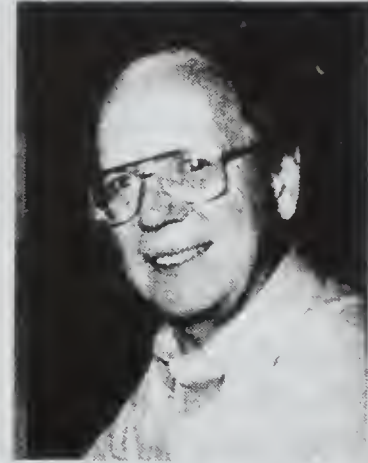
As a member of the Wisconsin Quarter Council, Cliff says he's not certain, but feels there may be some confusion between the state and the Mint regarding "striking" and "release" ceremonies, as he indicated in his reply, as through the first 5 years of the program mid-October was the release date for the 5th annual issues in the 50 States Quarter series. Cliff says he hasn't kept up on the production implementations and releases for each issue in the 2004 program, so perhaps they are running late and dates have been pushed back. Cliff will pass along any definitive information when it comes his way.

In addition to Numismatists of Wisconsin, the Madison Coin Club and members of the two Milwaukee coin clubs would like to be involved in any special events that will be held some place... and some time... and some day this fall!

* * *

Congratulations to Ken Bressett

Ken Bressett was named 2004 Numismatist of the Year by the American Numismatic Association. ANA past president and editor of the popular "Red Book" (Guide Book of United States Coins), he is an integral part of the numismatic hobby, educating collectors, both young and old.



In 1982 Ken and his wife, Bert, moved to Colorado Springs where he directed the ANA Certification Service. He remained at ANA until 1988, after which he served as a consultant to Minneapolis rare-coin dealer, Gary Adkins.

Now retired, Ken enjoys the hobby at his own pace. "I have been a collector, dealer, teacher, student, explorer, writer and participant in every phase of the hobby for the past 60 years... It's too late to stop now!"

[ref. ANA's Numismatist]

Show Information -- Avoid Errors

If your club is planning a show, please don't wait until the last minute to check our show calendar to make sure the date and information is correct.



Coin Club News

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

by Gene Johnson LM 105

The Wisconsin Valley Coin Club picnic was held Tuesday, July 20th at pretty Blue Gill Bay Park in Wausau.

A fine catered chicken dinner was enjoyed by the 18 members gathered on a very hot and humid evening.

At last year's picnic there was a shortage of desserts, and in a classic over-compensation, this year's member's "dish to pass" included 6 full-sized pans of cake deserts... oh so good, but hard to taste them all.

WVCC NEWS FLASH!! NOW member, Wes Wittig was columned in the Wausau newspaper when he celebrated his 101st birthday. Wes is remembered as the designer of the NOW medal at the NOW show in Wausau in 1971.

Small crowd notwithstanding, it's a real pleasure for coin collectors to get together

Luella Jens Bertschy

On May 29th, Luella Bertschy died in Milwaukee at the age of 103. She was preceded in death by her husband, Del Bertschy. Luella and Del were both truly dedicated and hard working numismatists for the Milwaukee Numismatic Society, Central States and Numismatists of Wisconsin.

Madison Coin Club

Despite the rather slim turnout for the picnic held August 9th, members and their families had an enjoyable get together at Garner Park. Beverages, snacks and ham sandwiches were furnished by the club and everyone brought their favorite dish to pass. The evening wouldn't be complete without playing a few games of bingo and every year we get rain... at least it waited until we were ready to go home!

* * *

Milwaukee Numismatic Society & South Shore Member Visits Alaska

by Lee Hartz #1219

Our second daughter, Karen, graduated and got her PhD from the University of Alaska in Fairbanks on Mother's Day this spring.

We flew to Fairbanks the day before, via Minneapolis and Anchorage. There were about a thousand graduates, although not all of them were in attendance (UA-F has only one graduation ceremony a year, so it covers the mid-winter grads and those who graduate after summer school as well as those graduating at the end of the spring semester). All the lesser degrees were presented by school, but the PhD's were left until the end, and they were all lumped together (all 14 of them). After the ceremony there was a reception for graduates, friends and family.

During a couple of day's sightseeing in Fairbanks we hit a coin shop. In talking with one of the owners, he showed me photocopies of several different sheets of Alaska National Banknotes. He also gave a favorable response when I asked about the Alaska Mint in Anchorage. It seems that he knew the owners of the Mint.

In Anchorage, among other things, we stopped at the Alaska Mint

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(www.alaskamint.com). It's more of a store with a minting press towards the back, enclosed in glass. You can see them striking medals, and they also have a closed-circuit TV, aimed at the press. The press has up to 300 tons of pressure, enough to deal with typical silver rounds. They struck several while we were there -- proofs, so that it took 3 strikes per piece.

In the photo below, you can see both the press through the glass and the striking area on the TV at the upper right.



Alaskan Mint is more like a store

While the Mint has the contract to strike official medals for the state of Alaska, they also strike a number of other things -- mostly in the one-ounce .999 silver round size, although they also do half-ounce size pieces.

Most of the items can be purchased in either Uncirculated or Proof. They are available in either normal .999 silver or .999 silver with 24k gold plating on the highlights. I bought the proof 2004 Northern Lights medal with the gold plating. On the plain silver version I could barely make out the Northern Lights. On the gold version, the Northern Lights were gold plated, making them easy to see.



Northern Lights
Rev.



Northern
Lights Obv.

From Anchorage, we took a bus to Seward to catch the ship for the week-long Inner Passage cruise south to Vancouver, BC. Among other things, the ship went into Glacier Bay National Park, where we saw glaciers calving small chunks of ice. Nothing big enough to be an iceberg, but big enough to get the idea. The ship stopped at Sitka, Juneau and Ketchikan before finishing up in Vancouver. In Juneau we took a whale watching cruise, seeing a number of whales and other sea animals.

While I didn't gamble, there was a casino aboard the ship, and I got a \$1 token from the cashier, showing the Holland-America logo.

We spent a day touring Vancouver and then flew home to Brown Deer. Our total trip was 16 days.

ILLINOIS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION



45th Annual FALL COIN SHOW & CONVENTION



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September 16th, 17th, 18th, & 19th, 2004

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Friday, 9/17th & Saturday, 9/18th—10AM to 6PM. Sunday, 9/19—10AM to 3:30PM

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Saturday, September 18, 2004—6PM

YOUTH AUCTION: Sunday, September 19, 2004—12:30PM

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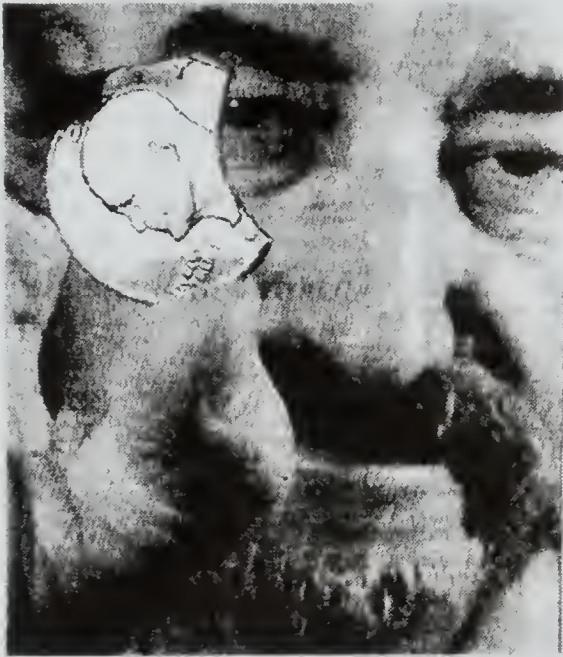
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Jack D. Huggins Jr., President • Illinois Numismatic Association



**Wisconsin State Journal
Features
NOW Member
Len Roosmalen**

Most people would recognize Len Roosmalen sitting behind a dealer's table at a Wisconsin coin show. Ron Seely, of the Wisconsin State Journal, recently interviewed Len, emphasizing the collector side of him, which many are not aware of.

Len told Seely that he doesn't collect just any coins -- he collects "mistakes"... and says with a grin "What?...you didn't know the government makes mistakes?"

Not every penny comes out perfect. Not every dime escapes damage. In fact Len's collection is described as a "veritable gallery of horrors."

You can't imagine the horrible things that can happen to a coin. Some get little sickle shaped pieces clipped from their edges. Sometimes faces of quarters get printed on dimes or the faces of dimes get printed on pennies. Some coins end up with nothing printed on them at all. Some get mangled and twisted. Sometimes two pennies get stamped together so they look like Siamese twins.

Seely asked "How can you explain such mistakes, especially from a federal mint?" Roosmalen's explanation is simple -- with machines stamping out coins at the rate of

700 strokes a minute, "when it goes to hell, it really goes to hell."

Only a handful of people in the country know as much about "error collecting". Len is well known among those collectors and was recently inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Combined Organizations of Numismatic Error Collectors of America (CONECA). Only four other people have been so honored.

Len loves to talk about misprinted coins. To become really good at recognizing the value of misprinted coins, he made himself an expert on the minting process and has visited the federal mint in Denver. He can describe in great detail the machinery used and how that machinery sometimes will malfunction and pop out a coin that looks like it was melted by aliens or stamped by somebody who was seeing double at the time.

For years, Roosmalen has published a catalog of misprinted coins and has run mail bid auctions for CONECA. He received several awards from the organization and is so well thought of among collectors that he was awarded an honorary lifetime membership in the Madison Coin Club.

This isn't all done just for fun -- sometimes the value of such coins can be substantial. One of Roosmalen's favorite coins is a penny that was printed in two different years. It's called a "double struck" coin and it bears the dates of both 1951 and 1964. In this case, he suspects the 1951 penny dropped from someone's pocket and got mixed up in 1964 with a batch of unstamped coins. It got stamped again -- inadvertently updated.

Although not long ago Len sold his Coins & Stamps business in Madison, he remains "in an advisory capacity."



ANA Highlights

ANA Establishes Defense Fund

In response to the growing need for consumer protection and the risks associated with taking action to address concerns about numismatic industry practices, the ANA Board established a fund to help offset the costs and expenses associated with numismatic litigation in which Association members find themselves named. This fund is another benefit that ANA provides members.

For additional information about the Defense Fund or consumer protection issues, contact ANA, 818 N. Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903 or phone 800-367-9723 or e-mail ana@money.org.

ANA Convention Medal

The U.S. Mint created a special medal for the ANA 113th Anniversary Convention that was held in Pittsburgh in August.

The medal's obverse shows Fort Duquesne, built in 1754, during the French and Indian Wars. The ANA logo is in the center of the reverse, representing the 3 rivers and the 3 convention hosts (the Western Pennsylvania Numismatic Society, Pittsburgh Numismatic Society and Pennsylvania Association of Numismatics). For more information and prices, call ANA (800)367-9723 ext. 170.

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Help Preserve Numismatic History

Donald Kagin, a member of the ANA Board of Governors, reports that the next few weeks are critical in a 10-year quest to reopen the old San Francisco Mint. Two congressional companion bills (H.R. 4249 and S.168) provide for the minting of 100,000 \$5 gold pieces and 500,000 \$1 silver commemorative coins in 2007.

The surcharge proceeds will go toward the renovation and establishment of a 10,000+ square-foot American Money and Gold Rush Museum.

With the virtual mothballing of the national coin collection at the Smithsonian Institute, this new museum assumes an even greater significance as a major exhibition of our nation's coins and currency. It's anticipated that over 300,000 people will visit the museum annually.

Kagin says it's important to remember that this is not just a California or Western project, but will benefit everyone interested in money, history, education and the development of our nation's commercial and social fabric. He urges collectors to take a few minutes to communicate to your Congressperson the benefits for collectors, dealers, educators and the future success of numismatics. For names and addresses of your Congressperson, go to website www.senate.gov. Once you've located the name and address, go to www.kagins.com for a sample letter which you can send to your Congressional member.

Coin collectors, who purchase 90% of the coin commemoratives, have contributed more than \$416 million in surcharges to support initiatives Congress has deemed worthy. This is the first time that a commemorative coin will benefit not only the nation at large, but also coin collecting in general.

According to Kagin, they need 190 representative co-sponsors and 67 senators. To date we have 26 and 6 respectively.



Book Nook

2005 Red Book
58th Annual Edition

Ken Bressett has completed work on the 2005 edition of R.S. Yeoman's *A Guide Book of the United States Coins*, commonly known as "the Red Book." This book includes more than 41,000 coin values and expanded sections on pattern coinage and Hard Times tokens.

This hardbound edition sells for \$15.95. For further information, contact Whitman Publishing of Atlanta, GA (404)235-5350 or check out their website: www.whitmanpub.com.

Numismatic Forgery

This new book by Charles M. Larson, published by Zyrus Press of Irvine California, is the result of 30 years of research into numismatic forgery. Larson's experiences include working as a prison guard to forger Mark Hofman during the 1980s at the Utah State Prison. Informal interviews with Hofmann lay the foundation for a number of methods discussed in the book. Hofman was known for forging coins as well as historical Mormon documents. The soft cover book retails for \$18.95. For further information, contact Zyrus Press (888) 622-7823 or FAX 800-215-9694.

Talkin Tokens

"Talkin Tokens" is a monthly periodical from the National Token Collectors Association. Editor Don Bailey has indexed all of the articles in the publication from October 1996 through December 2002. For more information, phone Don Bailey at 838-892-4602 or e-mail eladon@brinet.com.

Hobo Nickel Guideboo

by Stephen Alpert

The Original Hobo Nickel Society (OHNS) has just published its Hobo Nickel Guidebook which presents an up-to-date guide to hobo nickels and their values. Both classic old hobo nickels and modern creations are presented with over 700 enlarged photographs illustrated in the 126 page spiral-wire-bound book.

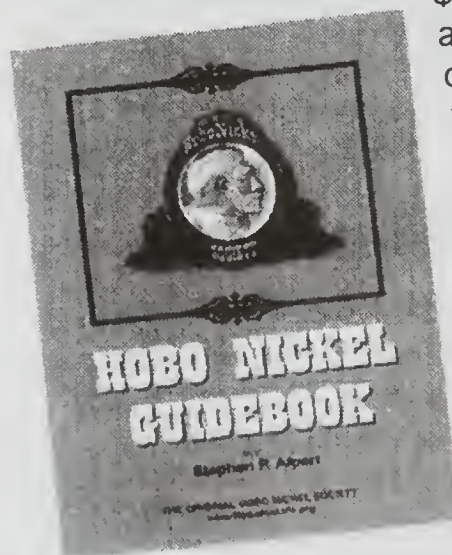
The purpose, methods of creation, and the components of hobo nickels are discussed. The most common type is the standard design depicting a bearded man wearing a derby. Other subjects include ethnic figures, hatless men, soldiers, women, famous people, and altered buffaloes. All these are discussed and illustrated in the book.

The OHNS Quality Designation scale for hobo nickels (Crude to Superior) is explained, and examples and general values for each are given, along with the factors affecting a hobo nickel's desirability.

An Artist Gallery chapter covers dozens of old, nicknamed, and modern hobo nickel artists with examples of their work. And an Auction Photo Gallery illustrates hundreds of hobo nickels sold in past OHNS auctions, along with the hammer price of each. This is valuable information as the most desirable hobo nickels (both old and modern) sell for

\$1,000 to \$2,000 apiece. Other chapters cover cast fakes, hobo tokens, and other similarly altered coins, both U.S. and foreign.

The book sells for \$30.





New \$50 Bills Will Be Available Soon

The newly redesigned Series 2004 \$50 notes, featuring subtle background colors of blue and red, images of a waving American flag and a small metallic silver-blue star, will start showing up in banks, cash registers and wallets this month. This is the 2nd denomination of greenback that no longer is exclusively green. The new bills still feature Ulysses S. Grant, the Civil War general and 18th president, on the front and the U.S. Capitol on the back.

Coin Act of 2004

The Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2004 moved toward action in the House of Representatives last June when the Committee on Financial Services, which handles coinage matters, gave its approval and had it placed on the House Union Calendar.

House Report 108-568 was issued on H.R. 3916, a bill that would change the portrait on the Sacagawea dollar coin to a series of presidential portraits on a circulating dollar coin over a period of 12 years, and add a new \$5 gold commemorative coin honoring the spouses of the presidents, a First Lady Series.

H.R. 3916 will attempt to address the failures of the Susan B. Anthony and the Sacagawea dollars, hopefully creating a demand for the coin similar to that for the State Quarter program.

Three Bills Pass the Senate

[ref. Numismatic News]

Three commemorative coinage bills passed the Senate July 20th and are heading to President Bush's desk after previous passage by the House of Representatives.

The Senate passed H.R. 1914, calling for 100,000 \$5 gold pieces and 500,000 silver dollars to honor the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown in 2007; H.R. 3277, calling for 500,000 2005 silver dollars to mark the 230th anniversary of the Marine Corps; and H.R. Bill 2768, calling for 400,000 2005 silver dollars to honor the 250th anniversary of the birth of Chief Justice John Marshall. There are also Senate versions of the legislation, but it was the House texts that gained final support.

Counterfeit Bills Found in Baraboo

[ref. Wisconsin State Journal]

Several merchants were surprised recently when they discovered they had taken in counterfeit \$20 and \$50 bills.

Maggie Youngquist, assistant vice president of the Baraboo National Bank said some of the bills turned up during the "Old Fashioned Day" festival.

The bills were immediately sent to the Secret Service for further investigation, but the people who received the counterfeit money were out of luck because the money is worthless.

Simple Simon Sez

A spokesman for the U.S. Mint announced that a new 50¢ piece was being issued to honor two great American patriots. On one side of the coin would be Teddy Roosevelt and on the other side, Nathan Hale.

Asked why two people were going to be on the same coin, the spokesman replied "Now when you toss a coin you can simply call... "Ted's or Hale's."

Gold

Gold probably was first found on the ground by prehistoric man. Highly sophisticated gold art objects and jewelry discovered by archaeologists date back to around 3000 BC. Goldsmiths of the Chavin civilization in Peru were making ornaments by hammering and embossing gold by 1200 BC.

Today, gold is still a valuable commodity in our lives. Some doctors are able to test patients for infections, cancer, AIDS, and other diseases and get immediate results by using genetic probes affixed with clusters of gold molecules that adhere to targeted DNA material.

Scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology developed a microchip, the size of a human thumbnail, with more than 1,000 separate tiny compartments that can hold medications in solid, liquid or gel form, and dispenses them from under the patient's skin. The silicon chip is covered with thin gold foil. Medicine is released when a tiny electrical charge is applied between the gold cover and a gold electrode, opening the desired compartment.

According to the Gold Institute, gold is also important in security systems which require long-term unattended reliability. The infrared reflective properties of gold are used in infrared viewing equipment for home and office security systems. These night-time security cameras can view areas at night without the need for visible light.

Thieves Take More Than Nickels & Dimes

Someone has been helping themselves to more than pocket change from parking meters in Wausau. Nearly \$25,000 worth of parking meters have disappeared this summer. City officials estimate about 38 meters will need to be replaced, at a cost of \$650 each... that's a hefty \$25,000. The hard-working thieves probably got only about \$50 from several meters since the meters are emptied frequently.

D-Day Anniversary Commemoratives

[British Royal Mint]

The Channel Islands of Jersey, Guernsey and Alderney have joined together in issuing a most memorable range of commemoratives marking the 60th anniversary of the invasion of Normandy on June 6th, 1944 -- D-day.

In marking the event, which enabled the allies to regain a foothold in Europe, culminating in the liberation of France and the final defeat of Germany, the Royal Mint selected 5 different designs from 3 artists, depicting in immaculate detail the events of that day. Six different choices are available to collectors, ranging between an impressive 1 kilo silver Proof, and a 3-coin gold Proof set to a choice of base metal coins.

Plans to liberate Europe began in earnest in the spring of 1943. Under Supreme Allied Commander, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, "Operation Overlord" began to take shape. Although by 1942 only 4,000 US troops had been posted to Britain, by July, 1943 that number had risen to a quarter of a million and by D-day - June, 1944, the buildup was nothing short of phenomenal, with 1.5 million American personnel based in Britain. Added to the 1.7 million British troops and 175,000 Dominion (mostly Canadian) troops and 44,000 other allied troops, the invasion force, in numbers alone, was astonishing. A total of 1,300 warships, 1,600 merchant ships, and 4,000 landing craft combined with 13,000 aircraft plus 3,500 gliders to ferry the force across the English Channel.

The French coastline of Normandy was chosen by the allies as the best option for the landings. Its flat beaches offered favorable assault areas while the proximity to the English coast allowed for effective air support



from British airfields. The landing area itself was divided into 5 sections: Utah and Omaha in the west were allocated to American forces, while Gold, Juno and Sword in the east would be attacked by the British, Canadian and combined allied force. French commandos were among the first ashore at Sword beach.

The tales of heroism, the ferocity of the battle and the tireless determination of the allied force is well documented. The many who gave their lives are remembered with gratitude for the sacrifice they made for freedom in Europe and throughout the world.

A majestic silver Proof Kilo coin, from Guernsey, sets the standard for the tribute. Engraver, Matthew Bonaccorsi has captured the atmosphere of the events with a magnificent 65mm silver Proof coin which features a reverse design by David Cornell, capturing a scene of the allied forces "trooping up the beach" following the landings.

Designs by artist Michael Guilfoyle, represent the 3 components of the landings -- land, sea and air. Each aspect of the Normandy invasion is captured and is featured on the coins. Also included in this set is the miniature medal of the one presented to all the soldiers who took part in the landings -- the France and Germany Star for all UK and Commonwealth personnel and the Europe, Middle Eastern and African campaign Medal for the Americans.

The coins are housed in a specially commissioned metal case, depicting scenes from the D-Day landings. It also contains a reprint of the first newspaper front cover bringing news of the landings, a full color poster showing when and where the forces landed and 3 flag pin badges representing the 3 most dominant countries -- US, Canada and UK.

Orders and inquiries should be addressed to the British Royal Mint (800-563-5943) or www.royalmint.com.

* * *

African Americans on Currency

U.S. Bureau of Engraving

It's a little known fact that five African Americans have had their signatures on currency. They were Blanche K. Bruce, Judson W. Lyons, William T. Vernon and James C. Napier. These men served as Registers of the Treasury.

Until the series 1923 currency, the two signatures on almost all currency (except Fractional Currency and Demand Notes) were of the Treasurer and the Register. During this period four of the 17 registers were African Americans. The fifth African American whose signature appeared on currency was Azie Taylor Morton. Ms. Morton was the 36th Treasurer of the United States. She served from September 12, 1977, to January 20, 1981. There are no images of African-Americans printed on U.S. currency.

The records of the U.S. Mint, the agency responsible for manufacturing U.S. coins, show that two fifty cent commemorative silver coins were produced during the 1940s commemorating black Americans: the Carver-Washington coin and the Booker T. Washington memorial coin. The coins are listed in the Official Red Book of United States Coins and are now only available from collectors and dealers. The recently released Jackie Robinson coin can be purchased directly from the United States Mint.

* * *

New Website Insures Coins & Collectibles

[ref. Numismatic News]

Shipandinsure.com is a new website that specializes in insurance for collectible shipments, including coins. The site was created with the cooperation of InterCorp, Inc. and the North American Collectibles Association. Customers receive comprehensive coverage that doesn't change regardless of carrier. Visit their website or call 800-640-7601.

Pattern Coins

U.S. Mint

From time-to-time, the United States Mint considers implementing new designs on the coins in circulation. Historically, the Mint developed new designs either internally or through outside competitions. As the selection process narrowed, actual sample coins were made of the various designs. These "Pattern" coins allowed mint officials to see how the proposed designs would look in 3-dimensional relief, to test for any problems in producing the coins, and to try out new metal alloys.

Pattern coins fall into a number of different categories:

- 1) Both sides were rejected for use on circulating coins;
- 2) One or both sides were modified slightly before they were used on circulating coins;
- 3) Either the obverse or the reverse was accepted for use on circulating coins;
- 4) Both sides were accepted for use on circulating coins, but the metal composition may be different from the one eventually used.

Die Trials were tests of dies in various stages of production. Back when dies were "cut" by hand, the engraver would periodically stamp the die into a piece of soft metal to see how the work was progressing. Die Trials also include "setup" pieces which were used to determine proper die alignments and striking pressures before regular production began.

Fantasy Coins include unexpected pairings of mis-matched dies made by Mint officials to create artificial rarities for personal gain or at the request of collectors. Fantasy Coins include the so-called "restrikes" that

were made outside the Mint from discarded dies, often combining dies of different types and vastly different dates.

Sometimes the line between Patterns, Die Trials and Fantasy Coins becomes blurred. In many cases, we simply lack the information as to when a coin was struck, why, and by whom. Often we must turn to the coins themselves to look for such clues and, thankfully, the coins are willing to help.

Is it important that we classify these coins properly? Yes, because apart from our natural human tendency to categorize, pigeon-hole, and classify just about everything around us, most collectors are concerned about a thing called "intent". Rarities that were "made-to-order" or that were created deliberately hold less of an attraction than legitimate rarities, and justly so. Visit www.uspatterns.com for more information on pattern coins.

Texas Quarter

[Various Sources]

On June 10th the Eyes of Texas and the Nation was on Austin as the United States

Mint launched the new Texas Quarter.

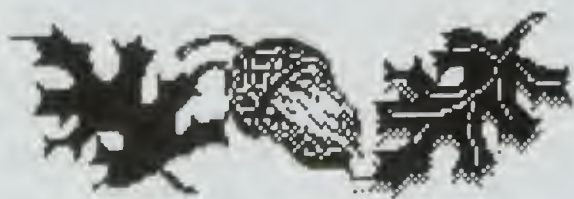


The Texas quarter is the 3rd quarter of 2004, and the 28th in the 50 State Quarters Program. On December 29, 1845, Texas became the 28th state to be admitted into the Union. The quarter's reverse design incorporates an outline of the state with a star superimposed on the outline and the inscription "The Lone Star State". The lariat encircling the design is symbolic of the cattle and cowboy history of the state as well as the frontier spirit that tamed the land.

Texas comes from the Indian word "tejas", meaning friends or allies, and appropriately Texas's motto is "Friendship". Probably the two most recognized symbols of the state are its unique shape and the lone star that is represented on the state flag. The Texas flag design was approved in 1839 to symbolize the Republic of Texas and was adopted as the state flag in 1845. The simple design of a lone star and three bold stripes of red, white and blue represent bravery, purity and loyalty, respectively. Texas is the only state to have had 6 different flags fly over its land -- Spain, France, Mexico, Republic of Texas, Confederate States of America and the United States of America.

It's said that everything is bigger in Texas, and the launch of the Texas commemorative quarter-dollar coin was no exception. Staged around the 35-foot-tall bronze Lone Star sculpture in front of the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in downtown Austin, the kick-off for the 28th commemorative quarter-dollar of the popular 50 State Quarters Program was a larger-than-life Texas celebration with free barbecue. Each child who attended the ceremony received a shiny, new Texas quarter, and adults exchanged their bills with local celebrities who handed out rolls of new quarters.

"The Texas quarter will serve as a timeless representation of our state's proud and storied history," said Governor Perry. "When Americans reach into their pockets, this coin will remind all of the proud and rich history of the state that was once its own sovereign nation."



Iowa Quarter

The Iowa quarter is the 4th quarter of 2004. On December 28, 1846 Iowa became the 29th state to be admitted into the Union. The design features a 1-room schoolhouse with a teacher and students planting a tree, with the inscriptions "Foundation in Education" and "Grant Wood." The design is based on "Arbor Day," a painting by Grant Wood, who was born near Anamosa, Iowa. He spent his career as a proponent of small-town values, which he celebrated in the iconic images of small-town plain folk and verdant Midwestern vistas for which he is world renowned.



Iowans have had a commitment to education since the state's earliest days. When Iowa became a state in 1846, it already had a number of rural country schools in each of its counties. Iowa established its first high school in the 1850s, although high schools generally didn't become widespread in the United States until after 1900. Private and public colleges also quickly took root in the new state.

Although Iowa has long been a leader in agriculture, the state is unique in that it is the only one whose east and west borders are completely formed by rivers -- the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers.

In May 2002, Governor Thomas Vilsack established the 16-member Iowa Quarter Commission, which worked with libraries, banks and credit unions to solicit ideas and concepts for the state quarter design. The Commission received nearly 2,000 submissions, which were narrowed to 5 candidate themes.

In July 2003, the U.S. Mint forwarded 5 approved designs to the Governor for final recommendation. The Secretary of the Treasury approved "Foundation in Education" on August 26, 2003.



Making Fun of Cents

by Gene Johnson
LM #105

Back in the April
20th issue of
Numismatic

News, my favorite fun writer, David Harper, spun a little tongue-in-cheek story on the intrinsic value of the United States cent (read penny). David pointed out that the price of copper was \$1.31 a pound and the copper cent was saved from melt down only by the collector who sells "wheaties" at 4¢ each.

Dave's story brought to mind our experience in Palm Springs, California last winter where picking up "lucky pennies" was a common daily occurrence even though the so-called "homeless" people were seen most everywhere in that sunny Coachella Valley.

The "give-a-penny, take-a-penny" dish at most retail store checkouts has been a common sight for the last 20 years, and the hue and cry to eliminate poor Old Abe on coins comes up each year at about tax time.

Rounding off to the nearest nickel on food service, and to the nearest buck on taxes has become the rule, but the smart merchants and gas station owners keep the cent (read penny) alive.

For all the youngsters in NOW, here are a few points of interest concerning that smallest of current United States coins from an old guy who still picks up "lucky pennies".

Cents circulate! I can remember getting Indian cents on my paper route in the 1940s, which shows that even after 30 years some were still rattling around. Makes me wonder if any Indian head cents found were "lucky"!

Sure pennies have come down a few notches in the last 50 years. The penny candy display

at the grocery store is long gone, and the one cent gum ball machines are all in antique shops and museums.

About the only time you hear about a lot of pennies is when someone pays off a foolish bet with a couple of loose bags full, or some tax protester wheels a barrow full into city hall on April 15th.

Back around the turn of the 20th century, the Mint hammered out about 50 million Indian cents in a year... no more than a month's production at Denver now in 2004.

No one talks about it much, but you and I and our love for the penny is the reason that over the last couple of years our Mints have struck over a billion cents.

Now days, a whole pocketful of cents won't get you a cup of coffee, and cents are bulky funds to haul around, so most of us just toss them in a jar at home (a small pitcher at our house).

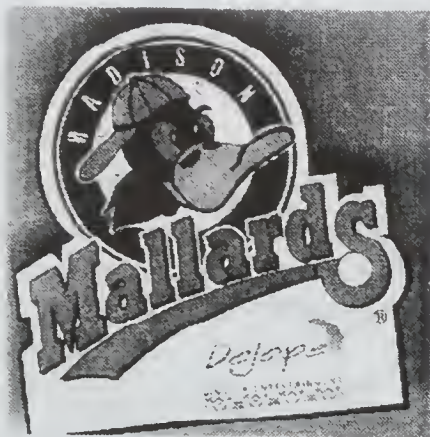
As for the penny vs cent nomenclature, we got the one cent idea from old England, where some rich guy dreamed up a square deal for the peasants. It was called a "pennig." How this became a cent... well that's another long story.

Nice thing lately is that no one seems to blame a penny shortage on the coin collectors anymore, like they once did.

I'm still hung up on the penny, maybe because back in the 50s I went through \$32,884 in pennies while filling three or four complete Lincoln cents from circulation, and plugging them into those old flat blue Whitman folders.

Did You Know?

Abe Lincoln, pictured on the cent in 1909, was the first American to appear on regular U.S. Coinage.



This Mallards Baseball pin was received June 21st.

Have You Seen the Mallards?

by Ron Calkins LM #34

No... not the kind that goes "Quack Quack", but the ones that gather at the "Duck Pond" at Warner park in Madison, Wis. each summer.

The Northwoods Baseball League was born in 1994, which began with franchises in Kenosha, Wausau, and Manitowoc, Wisconsin; Dubuque, Iowa; and Rochester, Minnesota. The league is a NCAA sanctioned summer baseball league comprised of teams of the top college players from the midwest and across the nation. All players in the league must have NCAA eligibility remaining in order to participate and players are not paid (this preserves their NCAA eligibility).

The Mallards took on the daunting task of trying to dispel the apprehension of Madison sports fans. Madison saw its share of teams come and go -- they lost 6 minor league franchises within 10 years in several different sports. All of these teams had problems breaking in with the college crazy Madison sports enthusiasts and none were able to make a go of it until the Mallards came along. In 2001 the Mallards completed their first season of play in this league.

Mallards Smash Attendance Record

Mallards owner, Steve Schmidt, led a major overhaul of Warner Park in 2002, also known as the "Duck Pond". It now has some of the best facilities in the Northwoods League.

June 12, 2004 was a special night in which the Mallards celebrated their 100th home game. There was only one word to describe the atmosphere at Warner Park: incredible! 10,061 fans packed the Pond, breaking the all-time record for summer collegiate baseball attendance. The previous league's record of 7,491 fans, also held by the Mallards, was broken by more than 2,500 new fans.

Not to be overshadowed by attendance records, the Mallards continue to play exceptional baseball and recently clinched their first Northwoods League amateur baseball championship.

I usually get to one of the Mallards 64 games played each summer (whenever my wife's community band plays a pre-game concert). It's a fun, entertaining evening that isn't expensive for a family. (\$5 general admission, \$3 for seniors and youths thru 14, while kids 5 and under are free).

Watching these games seem more entertaining to me than watching a major league game -- Following each inning, kids participate in activities on the field and everyone



Mallards Wooden
Nickle
Good for 1 Beverage
at the Duck Pond
(I chose beer)



For more information about the Mallards, check out www.mallardsbaseball.com

looks forward to nightly giveaways which may be a free beverage or piece of pizza to a whole bleacher section of fans.

Although I'm not a great follower of baseball, I also ran across a couple of other baseball items on the internet that caught my eye...

George "Babe" Ruth Baseball Gallery of Great Americans Silver Medal



1 ounce Proof, 39mm.

Baseball Catcher Medal from the 1890s

This very old medal measures 2 inches from top to bottom and is made of nickel plated brass. It appears to be part of an old watch fob.

Most striking about it is the light it sheds on catching in the 1890's-- The vignette on the front shows a stolen base in progress and the catcher is standing on the base wearing a fencing style mask. It's difficult to date this very early piece, but it's definitely pre-1900.



Hobo Nickels



[ref. The Society of Hobo Nickels and Hobo Nickels by Delma Romines]

Many people have misconceptions about hobos. The true hobo was not a bum. In most cases they were intelligent, well-educated, talented and versatile men who were not afraid of work and would gladly give good work for decent pay.

If you were born in 1935 or earlier, you can probably remember hobos passing through your area. He may have been a pot and kettle mender, offered knife and scissor sharpening or some other service. Regardless of what his talent was, he always offered some service for a good meal.

Hobo nickels started to appear in the U.S. about the same time the 1913 Indian head nickel was issued. At first they were probably carved to pass time and were usually not spent if they were of decent quality. Regardless of the reason, hobos quickly learned they could trade their carvings for a meal or perhaps a few extra cents.

Various methods were used in carving, primarily due to available tools and facilities. The majority of the better carvings were made by true artists who usually had quality carving tools or knives and chisels, which were often hand-made from small files.

Time to carve a coin was important -- Collectors and dealers estimate that the more delicately carved coins may have taken as many as 100 hours or more. Thousands of hobos carved all sorts of images, but no more than 20 were masters at this trade.

To look at Newell Shireman, now 90, it's hard to imagine him riding the rails, but ride them he did, along with a lot of other Americans when the nation was trudging through the Great Depression. After Shireman graduated from Middletown High School in 1933, he hitchhiked to the Chicago World's Fair, the first leg on a journey that stoked his fascination with hobo nickels.

From 1913 to 1938, the country's 5-cent piece was the buffalo nickel. The front featured the head of an Indian and the back, a buffalo. Hobos altered the nickels, transforming the Indian into a soldier or a bearded man wearing a hat. Some changed the buffalo into another animal, such as a camel or a lamb.

Shireman learned the keys to riding the rails from a hobo named Bert whose trademark nickels carried his name. Bert would remove the L, the I and the Y from the word "liberty" on the front of the nickel, leaving his "signature." Hobos like Bert modified the nickels with hand tools that Shireman describes as similar to an ice pick and files. As Shireman recalls, Bert would carve a nickel a night.

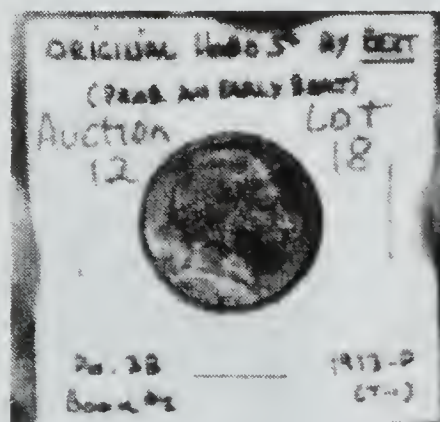
When Bert and Shireman went their separate ways in New Orleans, Bert made him a gift of six nickels. Shireman used them, as hobos did, as a thank-you when people gave him a meal. He recalls handing the last one to a woman in Bristol, Tenn., who fed him dinner and sent him on his way with leftovers in a bag.

Years later Shireman, back in Middletown and a veteran of World War II and Korea, began collecting hobo nickels. Coin collecting wasn't a new venture for Shireman -- he's been collecting since age 8.

As a teen who earned money selling newspapers, he once spent \$20 for a 1909-S VDB penny. Shireman said "Somebody -- I don't know to this day who it was -- told my father, 'You better watch that boy of yours. He paid \$20 for a penny,'" But it proved to be a wise investment. Today, he said that penny is valued at almost a thousand dollars.

Shireman is well-known at coin shows where he prowls for additions to his collection of 100-plus hobo nickels. "They all know me and they call me the hobo nickel man" he said. And they all knew that Shireman's collection lacked one thing... a nickel with the distinctive signature of "Bert."

For years, he told collectors and dealers, "I'll pay \$1,000 if it's genuine and a good one." Finally, his persistence was rewarded. Last year, as the organization gathered in Orlando, Shireman spent his \$1,000 and got a "Bert."



Shireman spent \$1,000 for this original 1913 "Bert" nickel.

Not too surprising, Shireman is a member of an organization specifically aimed at hobo nickel collectors -- The Original Hobo Nickel Society (www.HoboNickels.org). For more information, check out their website.

* * *

The Higgins Museum

[ref. Museum brochure]

If you're passing through Okoboji in northwest Iowa, you might find the Higgins Museum an interesting stop. The purpose of this museum is to acquire, preserve and display the notes and artifacts of the National Banks. The National Banking system played a key role in the financing of the Civil War and in stabilizing the banking system and provided credit to both the government and the public during the 50-years between the Civil War and World War One.

Iowa in particular was well served by the National Banks. The first bank to open for business, and for 2 days the only National Bank in America was the First National Bank of Davenport. 496 National Banks in 300 Iowa communities issued National Banknotes during the period 1863-1935.

Many people regard these notes as America's commemorative paper money. The landing of Columbus, the embarkation of the Pilgrims, the signing of the Declaration of Independence and other great historical events are illustrated on the notes of the first charter period. All of the notes honor the towns, the banks, and many thousands of individuals who played key roles in the development of our country and its resources.

The most complete collection of 1902 Red Seal Notes, many of them number one notes, are also featured. A printing press is on loan for exhibit purposes from the Bureau of Engraving & Printing and was obtained through the courtesy of the late President Reagan.

William Higgins, Jr. made this all possible. He grew up in Clay and Dickinson counties and served as Mayor of Okoboji for 14 years. A collector since his early youth, for 30 years he collected crowns of the world. In 1973 and 1974, his collection was sold in 3 major auctions and was the largest such collection in private hands in the world. The proceeds of these sales made this museum possible. For more information call 712-332-5859.

Beaver "Fur" Money

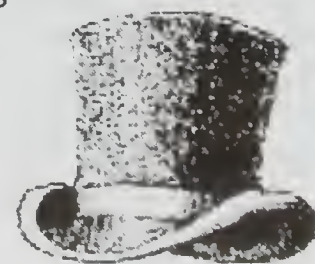
[ANA's World of Money]

There was no single monetary system in Colonial America and very few coins, so people usually traded for whatever they needed. Native Americans wanted metal tools, kettles, woven cloth and other man-made commodities, and European settlers wanted animal skins they could sell for cash or trade for other things.

Europe's endless demand for beaver fur hats turned beaver pelts into a form of money. The trappers' prize was an adult beaver killed in winter, when its fur was thickest. Once the hide had been stretched and dried, it was known as a "made beaver" or a beaver "in season" which became the standard unit of money used by Indian hunters to buy European goods.



Metal tokens and beaver effigies, such as the copper piece shown above, were used to represent numbers of made beavers in trade. These pieces are prized by collectors today. Hatters removed the beaver's soft undercoat from the skin, then it was washed, combed and allowed to dry. A pile of hair was arranged in a flat oval shape, then dampened, heated and pressed, causing the hair to mat and become felt. Beaver fur was perfect for felting because each hair had barbs which, when the hairs were moistened and matted, grabbed other hairs, making the final fabric sturdy. Beaver hats were water resistant and long-wearing and were often handed down from one generation to the next. Various styles were used from 1776 until replaced by silk hats in the 1840s.



D'Orsay hat (1820)

Cross Plains -- A Bit of Token History

by Ron & Phyllis Calkins LM #34 & LM #99

As the United States developed westward, towns and villages were built alongside roads and railway lines. The Cross Plains area was the site of important military road crossings and was settled in along two major roads -- one to Galena to Fort Winnebago and the other from Prairie du Chien to Green Bay, crossing on a piece of prairie about the middle of town, and hence, was named "Cross Plains."

The village of Cross Plains is situated 15 miles west of Madison, Wisconsin and is rich in token history. It was first settled in 1840 by Edward Hugh and John Campbell. However, Berry Haney, a migrant worker from Cross Plains, Tennessee, actually established a post office in the area in 1838. Haney built a tavern from native stone in 1840, which is one of Dane County's oldest existing buildings. An adventurer by nature, he joined the California gold rush in 1851, returned in 1853 and later that year moved to Kansas after deserting his wife. There were several subsequent owners of the tavern.

The area's first store opened around 1850 and by 1880 there were hotels, a lumberyard, blacksmiths, a shoe store, churches, schools, harness shops, the post office, saloons and other businesses throughout the three communities.

By 1867 two more villages were established nearby -- Christina and Foxville. Good farmland, abundant wildlife and business potential attracted people to the area. The Chicago-Milwaukee-St. Paul railroad line went through the northern part of town and the Madison Mineral Point stage road crossed through the southern part. These shipping routes were important to the growth and development of all three villages.

Christian Dahmen was one of the earliest settlers, coming from Cologne, Germany. In 1857 he erected his first store in Cross Plains and in 1860 he built a building that served as his home and business. In the early years, he was a private banker to the people. (The building is the present pottery shop).

Dahmen also dealt in dry goods and natural foods, and was among the merchants who issued tokens to help solve the shortage of coins during the Civil War.

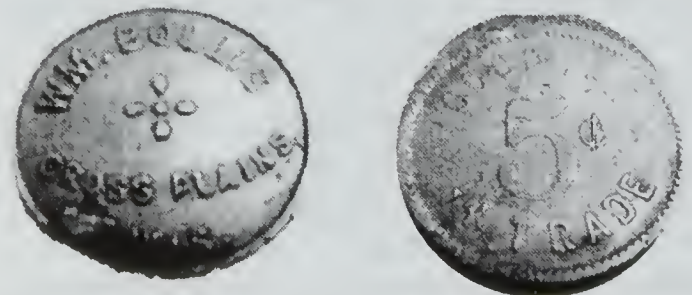
Civil War token:
C. Dahmen &
Sons/ Dealers in
Dry Goods/
Groceries & C. /
Cross Plains,
Wis.



In 1867 his son, Herman, took over the building and ran a general store and saloon. Herman served as notary public, did banking for residents and also operated the post office.

BOLLIG

In 1859 Charles Herman had a tavern in a house located at 1902 Main Street. The building burned in 1864 and a new structure was built, which was first used as a hotel and later a portion of the hotel was used as a saloon which was operated by a number of people, including the William Bollig family. William Bollig came to Cross Plains in 1915



William Bollig /Cross Plains, Wis. Good for 5¢ in Trade

and for many years operated a bar on Main Street, across from the present Sheltons Bar & Restaurant. For awhile, an ice cream shop was operated in connection with the tavern.

In 1941 Val Meinholz took over the business and in 1983 the village landmark was sold to Charles & Kathy Hilgendorf who kept the bar pretty much the same as it was originally. This bar is one of the oldest establishments still existing in Cross Plains -- the building is about 120 years old.



SAEMAN

Louis Saeman's
Sons token
Cross Plains Wis.

The tokens were
used about 1905
until 1922.



The oldest existing firm in Cross Plains and vicinity, that was conducted continuously by the members of one family, was founded by Louis Saeman in 1876. Louis was a native of Baden, Germany and came to America in 1868. He was first employed in the U.S. in a lumberyard in Newark, New Jersey, then lived a short time in Madison, Wisconsin, eventually moving to Cross Plains. Saeman established his first business in the basement of Ed Karl's home where he also operated a tavern.

Many merchants had a second business along with a tavern and Louis was no exception.

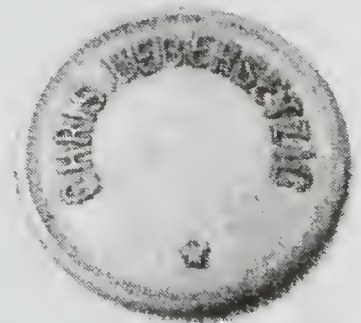
He purchased a few piles of rough lumber and in 1875 started a lumber business and then added livestock and shipped in coal for retail. People sold their livestock, went to Saeman to collect their money and then spent a little of it in the tavern -- thus, Saeman got a little bit of the cattle money back.



The tokens are round aluminum, 5¢, 10¢ & 25¢. The 10¢ and 25¢ tokens were probably struck by the same company, but used at a later date. The obverse is the same for all.

UEBERSSETZIG

Chris Uebersetzig was a carpenter by trade, however, in 1887 he entered into the undertaking and embalming business. In those days embalming was done at the deceased's home and the wakes were held at the homes, but the services were usually held at the churches.



Good for 5¢ at Bar

In 1908 a furniture department was added and in 1922 the store was enlarged and remodeled. It's uncertain when he entered the bar business, but this token dates about 1930.

SCHWOERER's MILK

Taverns weren't the only establishments in Cross Plains that used tokens. This aluminum milk token was used around 1930 on Fred Schwoerer's milk route. His dairy business was located on a farm outside of Cross Plains. Customers purchased the tokens and when they wanted milk delivered, one or two tokens were left in an empty milk bottle on the doorstep to let the milkman know how many quarts of milk they wanted. This aluminum token is good for 1 quart of milk.



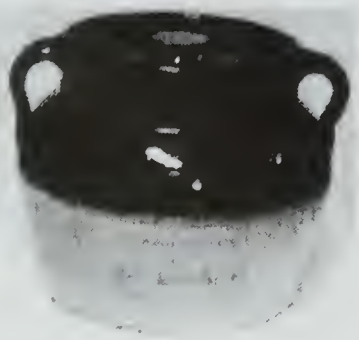
Fred Schwoerer /Cross Plains/Wis.
Token Good for 1 Quart of Milk

ZANDER

In 1875 Carl Jacobi opened a creamery at the site of the present Zander Creamery. H.M. Zander bought and operated the business until 1955.

Beanpots were unusual "give aways." Merchants ordered them from H.M. Zander and gave them to their customers at Christmas time.

A whole railroad car full of these pots were delivered to H.M. Zander in Cross Plains who distributed them to little grocery stores in the surrounding areas



that he sold and delivered sugar to. At one time he was the biggest sugar wholesaler in 3 states.

Zander's Creamery and General Store and Saeman Lumber provided local farmers with the means to trade for items they could not produce on the farm. Butter was traded at the general store and grain and livestock were traded for building materials. The farm products were then shipped off to Milwaukee and other cities on railroad cars.

Zander's Creamery, which had been in existence in Cross Plains for 134 years (and in the Zander family for 106 years) recently closed. Earlier this year, government testers detected a bacterial contaminant, Lysteria, during routine testing and the U.S. Department of Agriculture ordered Zanders to recall millions of pounds of products. The financial impact of the USDA ordered product recall was too much for the firm to absorb. It was financially devastating for the company and employees, so they just closed their doors.

ESSER's BREWERY

A certain amount of fame came to Cross Plains through a brewery which George Esser established in 1863. His son, Jacob, became the owner in 1888.

Brewing was discontinued in 1910, but the business continued by Werner and Peter Esser, sons of Jacob, as a wholesale bottling house until the coming of prohibition when from 1928 to 1933 they sold near beer, soft drinks and ice.

Depression Woes

The Depression ushered in by the stock market crash of 1929 was beginning to seem like a permanent fact of life. The defeat of Herbert Hoover by Franklin D.

Roosevelt in 1932 and the promise of a “New Deal” for America had raised the hopes of many, but as a hard winter turned into a cold wet and windy spring, optimism like many other useful commodities, was in short supply.

The year 1933 was not a good one for the citizens of Cross Plains, or for most Americans. Just when it seemed like things couldn't get any worse, they did! Depositors, panicked by the closing of some banks due to loan defaults, rushed to withdraw their savings, and the entire banking system appeared close to collapse.

Two days after his inauguration, on March 4th 1933, FDR declared a “Bank Holiday.” All the banks were closed for more than a week until Treasury officials could determine if the banks were sound enough to reopen. Some banks never opened their doors again.

Roosevelt declared a national emergency and ordered all gold coins, gold bullion and gold certificates to be turned in to the federal reserve banks, in effect confiscating the gold. U.S. currency and non-gold coins became worth the same amount as if they were gold, dollar-for-dollar.

When the Gold Reserve Act passed in 1934, the Federal Reserve received title to all the monetary gold it had collected. The act also changed the value of gold from about \$14 to \$35 an ounce, escalating the value of coins and currency by about 40% in an attempt to increase the country's exports.

During prohibition taverns and distributors stayed in business by distributing soft drinks and “near beer.” The generally law-abiding citizens, like many other Americans, had never really taken prohibition too seriously. Beer, as well as most other varieties of alcoholic beverages, continued to be available, though prices were high and the quality was questionable.

Much of the beer in town was home brewed. Some people knew how to make it, but if you didn't, kits with hops, yeast, etc. were available that made 5 gallons of root beer, or even regular beer. They were their own best customers.

Fortunately for the majority of home brewers, prohibition was selectively enforced. It was understood that the police wouldn't bother the true home brewer. They would, however, go after anyone who got ambitious enough to start selling in quantity.

There were other sources -- Chicago was not far away and it wasn't unusual to encounter products manufactured and distributed on a large scale by Al Capone and his associates. These were easily recognizable square 5 gallon cans containing pure grain alcohol. Due to the nearness of this source of supply (not to mention the organization's business practices), there was little motivation for locals to move up to big-time bootlegging.

Editor's note: My husband, Ron, remembers family stories about his uncle in Baraboo who made bathtub gin during the era and it wasn't all for home consumption.

Citizens Celebrate

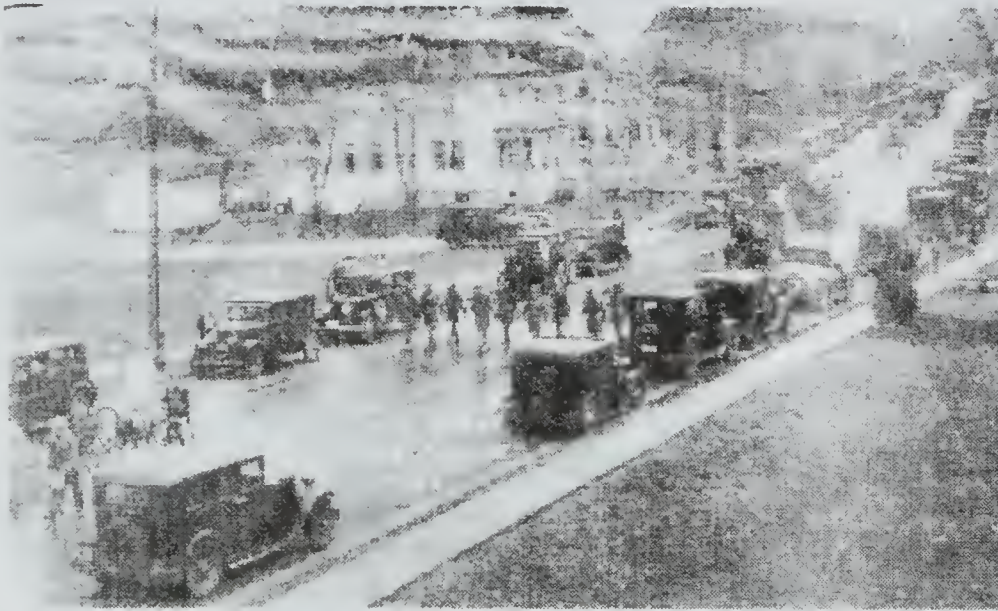
For the people of Cross Plains, mostly first or second generation German immigrants, the brewing and consumption of beer was a cornerstone of civilization. They had waited through the 13 years of prohibition for their country to come to its senses. With the repeal of the 18th amendment in 1933, prohibition came to an end and beer was legal again -- that was a perfect excuse for the entire community to celebrate.

1933 Beer Parade

The Beer Parade held on April 17, 1933 undoubtedly provided a badly needed boost in morale for the citizens of Cross Plains. The event celebrating the end of prohibition drew 5,000 people to the village, which then had a population of about 200.

Right behind the honor guard came a team of horses pulled a beer cart with a sign reading "Try to take it away again." Another team hauled a tank reading, "Everybody's off the water wagon".

There were clowns hoisting beer bottles, men dressed as weeping members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union and a mock funeral for the author of the Volstead Act. Horses pulled wagons, Model T and Model A cars joined the 2001 parade...



1933 Beer Parade in Cross Plains, Wis.

Ron's Model A Depot Hack Huckster was loaded with beer barrels and lots and lots of beer flowed in the German community of Cross Plains.

Other Cross Plains Tokens

Other Cross Plains tokens that are mentioned in Gerald Johnson's 10,000 Wisconsin Tokens Book include:

"Good For/5¢/ Ben Faust/ at Bar, used from 1893-1900 (saloon). 24mm round brass.

Val's/Tavern/Cross Plains/Wis. Good for 5¢ in Trade (1946-1952) Val Meinholz. 18mm brass oval.

The End of Prohibition Was Celebrated Again in 2001



Sixty eight years later, the end of prohibition was celebrated in Cross Plains again. The event had the spirit of the original parade as citizens recreated the historic 1933 Beer parade.

[References -- History of Cross Plains, Directory of Dane County 1904-1908, Dane County Wisconsin by John Drury, History of Dane County Wis., News Sickle-Arrow, the Cross Plains Historical Society, Reminisce Magazine and thanks to Bob Saeman for sharing many of the tokens shown in this article and his family history].



Coin Club Meetings

Antioch, IL Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 3rd Monday of each month at Antioch Library, 757 Main St, Antioch, IL.

Baraboo Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 the 2nd Sunday at the Masocnic Lodge in Baraboo. Contact Tim Quinn, PO Box 302 Baraboo, WI 53913. Ph. 608-253-6460.

Barron County Coin Club

Meets at 8:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the School Administration Bldg., 700 Augusta St., Rice Lake. Contact Barron County Coin Club, P.O. Box 256, Chetek, WI 54728.

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club

Meets the 3rd Thursday (April-October); at the Burnett County Sr. Citizens Center, 24054 State Road, 35/70 Siren. 7:00 traders; 8:00 business meeting. Contact Gary Schauls 715-472-2002.

Fond du Lac Coin Club

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday (May thru Sept.) at the Senior Center East 2nd Street in Fond du Lac. Contact Fond du Lac Coin Club, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903.

Fox Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Prime Time Club, 11150 Valley Road, Menasha.

Kenosha Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st Thursday of each month (except July & August) at 3030 39th Ave, Kenosha.

Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Silverbrook Middle School, 120 N. Silverbrook Drive in West Bend. Youth meeting at 6:30.

Lake County Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Warren Township Library, O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee, IL.

Madison Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 2nd Monday of each month in Zimbrick Buick Community meeting room. Contact Tom Galway. Phone 608-238-1722.

Manitowoc Coin Club

No regular monthly meetings. An annual coin show is held in February. Contact Al Hrudka.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:00 on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Mayfair Mall Community Room, 2500 N. Mayfair Road in Wauwatosa (use #2 entrance, east side of mall).

Nicolet Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at Stein Supper Club, 126 S. Adams in Green Bay.

Ozaukee Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 the 2nd Thursday at the Cedarburg Public Library, W63 N583 Hanover St., Cedarburg. (6:30 Youth meeting).

Racine Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday at Castlewood Restaurant in Racine. Contact George Conrad 266-634-0833.

Sheboygan Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 every other Tuesday at Maple Lanes, 3107 S. Business Dr., in Sheboygan. Contact Sheboygan Coin Club, PO Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

South Shore Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at St. Roman's Church Annex, 20th & Bolivar in Milwaukee.

Waukesha Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Waukesha Salvation Army offices at 445 Madison St., Waukesha. Contact Forrest Schumacher, 2300 Avalon Drive, Waukesha, WI 53186.

Wisconsin Dells Area Numismatic Group

Meets the 4th Sunday of each month at Chula Vista Resort, Wis. Dells. 6:30 social hour; 7:00 presentation. Contact Joe Kaminski 608-254-7908.

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Liberty Bell Coin Shop, 130 N. 3rd Ave., Wausau. Contact Thad Streeter, 715-355-5437 or Bryn Kruse 715-842-9226.



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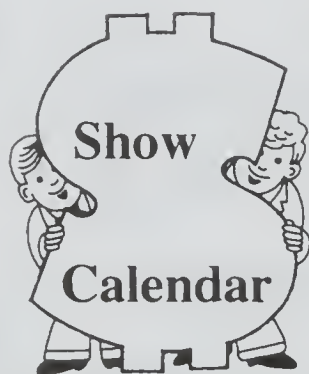
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Please send information on your upcoming show to the NOW News Editor, PO Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560. Include name of club, location of show, dates, hours, number of tables and your show/bourse chairman's name, address and phone.

September 12, 2004 - Eau Claire

Summer Coin Show at Holiday Inn, 2703 Craig Road, Eau Claire. 22 tables. Contact: Roy Crowell, PO Box 1591, Eau Claire, WI 54702. Ph: 715-379-5443.

September 16-19, 2004 - Chicago, IL

ILNA Fall Coin Show at Park Place of Countryside Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL. Hours: Thur. 2-7 (dealer setup); Fri. & Sat. 10-6 p.m. Sun. 10-3:30 p.m. 120 tables. Bourse Chm. Kermit Wasmer, Phone 815-432-4636 www.ilnaclub.org.

September 19, 2004 - Rockford IL

Rockford Area Coin Club's 96th Semi-Annual Coin Show at Rockford Holiday Inn, I-90 & State St., Rockford. Hours: 9-4 p.m.; 55 tables. Bourse Contact: Don Smith, 100 W. Main, Rockton, IL 61072. Phone 815-624-0422.

September 26, 2004 - Milwaukee

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's 68th Coin Show at the American Serb Memorial Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee. Hours: 9-4 p.m.. 65 dealers. Bourse Chm.. Dave Hunsicker, 248 7th Ave., West Bend, WI 53095. Phone: 262-338-6064.

October 8-10, 2004 - Lakeland FL

Collectorama Show at Lakeland, FL. website: hometown.aol.com/CollectoramaShow.

October 10, 2004 - Green Bay

Nicolet Coin Club's Fall Coin Show at Rock Gardens/Comfort Suites, 1951 Bond St., Green Bay. Hours: 9-4 p.m., 32 dealers. Bourse Chm. Roger Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Ave., Green Bay, WI 54313. Phone 920-499-7035.

October 16, 2004 - Sheboygan

Sheboygan Coin & Stamp Show at Sheboygan Armory, 516 Broughton Drive, Sheboygan. Admission Free; 40 tables. Chm. Ed Rautmann. P.O. Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53082. Phone: 920-452-6359.

October 31, 2004 - Elgin, IL

Elgin Coin Club's 42nd Annual Show at the V.F.W. Post 1307, 1601 Weid Road, Elgin, IL 60123. Hours: 9-3 p.m.; 32 tables, Contact: Don Cerny, P.O. Box 561, So. Elgin, IL 60177. Phone: 1-847-888-1449.

November 6, 2004 - Kenosha

Kenosha Coin Club's 46th Annual Coin & Collectible Show at the Kenosha Union Club, 3030 39th Ave., Kenosha. Hours: 9:30-4 p.m., 30 dealers. Bourse Contact: Jerry Binsfeld (262-657-4653 (day) or 262-654-6272 (evening)).

November 7, 2004 - Madison

Madison Fall Coin Show at the Sheraton Hotel, 706 John Nolen Drive, Madison. Hours: 9-4 p.m., 50 tables. Show Chm. Don Kerschner. Phone 920-484-3144 after 5 p.m.

November 14, 2004 - Eau Claire

Fall Coin Show at Holiday Inn, 2703 Craig Road, Eau Claire. 22 tables. Contact: Roy Crowell, PO Box 1591, Eau Claire, WI 54702. Ph: 715-379-5443.

November 18-20, 2004 - St. Louis, MO

National & World Paper Money Convention at St. Louis Airport Hilton Hotel. Contact: Kevin Foley Phone: 414-421-3484.

December 3-5, 2004 - Baltimore MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention at Baltimore Convention Center, 1 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD. Contact Edward Kuszmar Ph: 561-392-8551. website: hometown.aol.com/BaltimoreCoinShw.

February 13, 2005 - Eau Claire

Winter Coin Show at Holiday Inn, 2703 Craig Road, Eau Claire. 22 tables. Contact: Roy Crowell, PO Box 1591, Eau Claire, WI 54702. Ph: 715-379-5443.

February 20, 2005 - Oshkosh

Numismatic Research Society's 22nd Annual Show at Oshkosh Convention Center, South Main St. & Ceape St., Oshkosh. Contact Numismatic Research Society, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

February 20, 2005 - Rockford, IL

Rockford Area Coin Club's 97th Semi-Annual Coin

Show at Rockford Holiday Inn, I-90 & State Street, Rockford. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Bourse Chm. Don Smith, 100 W. Main, Rockton, IL 61072 Ph: 815-624-0422.

February 27, 2005 - Racine

Racine Numismatic Society's 67th Annual Coin Show at South Hills Country Club, 3047 Hwy. 94, east side of Frontage Road, Franksville, WI. Hours: 9:30-4 p.m.. 40 tables. Bourse Chm. Jerry Binsfeld, 6040 39th Ave., Suite 7, Kenosha, WI 53142. Ph: 262-657-4653 (days) or 262-654-6272 (evenings).

March 6, 2005 - Madison

Madison Coin Club's 73rd Annual Coin Show at the Sheraton Hotel, 706 John Nolen Ave., Madison. Hours: 9-4:30. Contact Jim Essence, 702 N. Midvale Blvd. B-10, Madison, WI 53705 (608-233-2118).

March 11-13, 2005 - Baltimore, MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention. Contact Edward Kuszmar Phone: 561-392-8551.

March 13, 2005 - Brookfield

Waukesha Coin Club's 36th Annual Coin Show at American Legion Hall, 3245 N. 124th Street, Brookfield. Hours: 9:00-3:00 p.m. Contact Forrest Schumacher 262-542-3934.

March 18-20, 2005 - Rosemont, IL

Chicago Paper Money Exposition, Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Rd., Contact: Kevin Foley Phone: 414-421-3484.

March 20, 2005 - Appleton

Fox Valley Coin Club's 50th Annual Spring Show at Tornado's Hall, 2350 N. Casaloma Drive, Appleton. (new location near Fox Cities Stadium). Hours: 9-4 p.m., 40 tables. Gen. Chm. James Bayer, PO Box 1981, Appleton, WI 54912-1981. Phone: 920-739-1089.

March 31-April 2, 2005 - Milwaukee

South Shore Coin Club's 41st. Annual Coin Show at Four Points Hotel Sheraton, Milwaukee Airport, 4747 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee. Hours: Thurs. 3-8 p.m., Fri. 10-6 p.m., Sat. 10-4:00 p.m. (Boy Scout Clinic 7:30 a.m.). Contact: Walter Weis, 3250 S. 15th Place, Milwaukee. Phone 414-384-7966.

April 8-10, 2005 - ANA

National Money Show at Crown Center Exhibit Hall, 2450 Grand Ave., Kansas City, MO. Contact: ANA Phone: 719-632-2646; FAX 719-634-4085.

April 17, 2005 - Wausau

Wausau Coin Show at the Park Inn, 2101 N. Mountain Road, Wausau. Hours: 9-5 p.m. 40 dealer tables. Show Chm. Thad Streeter, 5002 Tanya St., Shofield, WI 54476. Phone: 715-355-5437.

April 22-24, 2005 - Rosemont, IL

Chicago Intl. Coin Fair at Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Rd., Rosemont, IL. Contact: Kevin Foley, Phone: 414-421-3484.

May 1, 2005 - Green Bay

Nicolet Coin Club's Show at Comfort Suites/Rock Garden, 1951 Bond St., Green Bay. Hours: 9-4 p.m.; 32 tables. Bourse Chm. Roger Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Ave., Green Bay, WI 54313. Ph: 920-499-7035.

May 5-8, 2005 - Central States

CSNS 66th Anniversary Convention at America's Center, St. Louis, MO. Contact: Jerry Lebo, PO Box 841, Logansport, IN 46947. Ph: 574-753-2489.

May 20-21, 2005 - NOW

NOW 45th Anniversary Event, hosted by Chet Krause at Iola. Hours: Fri. 2-6 p.m.; Sat. 9-6. Show Chm. Cliff Mishler (715-445-5050) Bourse Chm. Joel Edler (715-445-2214).

June 11, 2005 - Rice Lake

Barron County Coin Show at Cedar Mall, 2900 S. Main Street, Rice Lake. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Bourse Chair: Sue Peterson, PO Box 362, Rice Lake, WI 54868.

June 23-26, 2005 - Rosemont, IL

MidAmerica Coin Expo at Donald Stephens Convention Center. Contact: Kevin Foley 414-421-3484.

July 27-31, 2005 - ANA

ANA 114th Anniversary Convention in San Jose, CA. Contact: ANA Convention Dept. 719-632-2646.

September 18, 2005 - Rockford, IL

Rockford Area Coin Club's 98th Semi-Annual Show at Holiday Inn, Rockford. 55 tables. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Bourse Chm. Don Smith, 100 W. Main, Rockton, IL 61072. Phone 815-624-0422.

October 2, 2005 - Milwaukee

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's Show.

October 23, 2005 - Cedarburg

Ozaukee Coin Club's Show at Circle B Recreation, 6261 Hwy. 60, Cedarburg (Hwy. 60 & I). Hours: 9-4 p.m. Show Contact: Nels Olsen 262-376-5182.

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